



The President's Daily Brief

October 12, 1976

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

October 12, 1976

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[redacted] members of the Central Committee are being brought to the capital, presumably to ratify the selection of Hua Kuo-feng as new chairman of the party.
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Lebanon: Arab mediator Hussan al-Khuli claims that a "tentative agreement" has been reached at the Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese talks, but the official Syrian news agency has noted only that the negotiators will meet again tomorrow to discuss "disputed points." (Page 3)

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CHINA:

members of the Central Committee are being brought to the capital for a major meeting.

The meeting is likely to ratify the selection of Hua Kuo-feng as new chairman of the party.

If reports are true that the party's four leading leftists are under arrest for an alleged coup plot, charges against these four would also have to be discussed. Their removal would require decisions on a new leadership lineup on the Politburo.

There are a number of other appointments that would seem to need the approval of the Central Committee. The length of the current meeting will depend on how many of these questions the Central Committee decides to consider at this time.

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FRANCE: Paris announced changes yesterday in its nuclear export policy. Although these changes are being undertaken to support more stringent guidelines

France at the same time is intent on maintaining or increasing its nuclear trade and in retaining final authority over French export policy.

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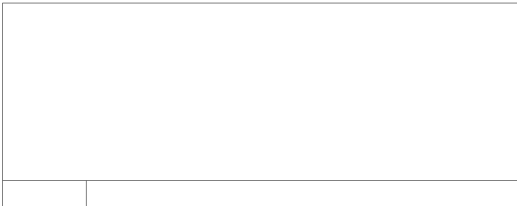
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*The changes announced
yesterday generally
follow these lines.*

France is willing to discuss the "problems" of nuclear exports, i.e., potential weapons proliferation, with both "supplier countries" and recipient countries "engaged in substantial nuclear energy programs." As a substitute for sensitive materials and facilities, France would guarantee the necessary enrichment and reprocessing services to countries that purchase French nuclear power plants. France may also promote the involvement of its nuclear industry in the construction of multinationalally owned and operated plants.



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LEBANON: *Arab mediator Hasan al-Khuli claims that a "tentative agreement" has been reached by Syrian, Palestinian, and Lebanese representatives.*

The official Syrian news agency has ignored al-Khuli's remarks, however, and has noted only that the negotiators will meet again tomorrow to discuss "disputed points."

Camille Shamun, the most intransigent of major Christian leaders, has now joined Lebanese leftists, radical Palestinian groups, and Phalangist leader Jumayyil in refusing to be bound by any decisions that might be reached at the talks.

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NOTES

Panamaian leader Torrijos took a relatively mild line on the canal issue in his traditional speech yesterday marking the anniversary of the 1968 coup.

He delivered his standard warning of possible recourse to force should canal talks fail, but he reaffirmed his commitment to the negotiations scheduled to resume later this month. He even noted that rash action by Panama could erode the hemispheric support he claims to have on the issue.

Torrijos devoted the major portion of his speech to the domestic economy. He admitted that difficult months lie ahead but denied the existence of a crisis and promised new measures to combat rising unemployment and urban problems.

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Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba flew to Geneva yesterday for treatment and rest, according to an official communique.

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